FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

5 AUGUST 1986

OPEC

Most OPEC member-countries support an Iranian plan to reduce oil production to the 1984 ceiling of 16 million bbl/day, according to IRNA, which added that the Iraqi quota is not included in the plan. The Iranian oil minister said Iran would prevent Iraq from producing its desired level, the agency continued. However, Iraq's oil minister denied that Iran can control Iraqi production and asserted that Iraqi oil production will remain at about 2 million bbl/day, KUNA reported.

Kuwait conditionally accepted the Iranian plan, noting that the proposed reduction would amount to a 45 percent cutback in Kuwaiti output, or 23 percent of the entire OPEC reduction, according to Kuwait radio, which called the plan "temporary." Kuwait also noted its right to abrogate the agreement if any state violates the plan in whole or in part, the radio continued. While IRNA maintained that Saudi Arabia has expressed its conditional approval of the Iranian plan, monitored Saudi media have not been observed to comment directly on its provisions.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the forthcoming Israeli-Soviet meeting in Helsinki will be a preparatory session in which the two countries will define the composition and functions of the consular missions which they will send to each other, Jerusalem radio reported. He confirmed that the USSR initiated the contacts by asking to send a mission to Israel for the purpose of checking Russian church property and updating permits for entry into the Soviet Union. Israel agreed in principle and proposed the preparatory meeting but insisted that each side can raise any topic it wishes, Peres said, noting that Israel will raise the issues of Soviet Jewry and the Middle East conflict. However, the prime minister cautioned against excessive optimism about relations with the USSR, viewing the Soviet initiative as a "cautious" move aimed at "integrating Israel into the atmosphere of detente without jeopardizing Soviet relations in the Arab world." A subsequent Jerusalem radio report noted that Israel will make the Soviet visit conditional upon allowing a reciprocal visit by an Israeli delegation which will meet with Jewish emigration activists.

In another development reported by the radio, Peres informed the Knesset committee that he has proposed holding elections in the West Bank for the Jordanian Parliament, disclosing that he suggested this during his talks with the British prime minister in May.

Iran

Tehran Bomb Blast — A bomb planted by "agents of international arrogance" exploded in Tehran early 5 August, killing one, IRNA reported.

Talks With USSR Leaders — The deputy foreign minister met with USSR Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and President Andrey Gromyko in separate meetings in Moscow, Tehran radio reported. Talks with Shevardnadze, which focused on bilateral relations and a number of international and regional problems, took place in a "frank and businesslike" atmosphere, TASS reported. Gromyko told the deputy minister that if Iran stands for peace and the eradication of the threat of nuclear war, opportunities for mutual cooperation will expand even more, the agency announced.

Iran-Iraq War

A 3 August commentary by Tehran radio's Arabic service responded to the Iraqi president's recent open letter to the Iranian authorities, maintaining that Saddam Husayn issued his "miserable message" in order to evade punishment, mislead public opinion, and prepare for further "crimes."

The Iraqi leader is a "criminal murderer" who has not changed, the radio asserted, and he attempted to try his luck with a peace plan in the hope of avoiding "military developments that will have great significance in deciding the outcome of the war."

Lebanon

The security plan for the southern suburb was successfully implemented 4 August without obstacles and amid total calm, Beirut radio reported, noting that an 850-strong security force has deployed in various localities in the area and along the road to the international airport. The force consists of 500 Lebanese soldiers, 150 members of the Internal Security Forces, and 200 Syrian observers, the radio disclosed.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Moroccan King Hassan II outlined the motives for his talks with Israeli Prime Minister Peres in a letter to Arab leaders broadcast by Rabat radio, stressing that the Fes plan was the "only basis" for the talks and that he could not have participated in any talks outside this basis. Israel's acceptance of Morocco's conditions for the talks strengthens the Arab position, he maintained.

Sudan

SPLA leader Colonel John Garang expressed his movement's readiness for a cease-fire in the war in Sudan, KUNA reported, citing an article in the UAE's *Al-Ittihad*. According to an agreement reached with the Sudanese prime minister, the lifting of the state of emergency in Sudan would be followed by a cease-fire and the abrogation of the Sudanese-Egyptian defense pact, Garang said.

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Najibullah Participates in Youth Plenum

LD041752 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Excerpt] Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee today took part in the work of the 14th plenum of the Central Committee of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan and specified the tasks of the youths in the conditions of the reconstruction of our society.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that Abdorrahim Hatef, president of the Central Council of the National Fatherland Front; Nawr Mohammad, candidate member of the Politburo and minister of defense; Gholan Faruq Yaqubi, candidate member of the Politburo and the minister of state security; Najmoddin Kawiani, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and official in charge of the Organization Department of the party Central Committee, and a number of members of the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Council of Ministers also took part in the plenum. [passage omitted]

Addresses Youth on Tasks

LD050919 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0518 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, August 4, BAKHTAR — We are living in an arduous and complicated time but at the same time in the turning point of revolutionary changes in the life of the people of Afghanistan, said Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA CC while delivering a speech at the 14th plenum of the Central Committee of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan (DYOA).

Najibullah said that the undeclared war imposed upon Afghanistan by world imperialism and reaction of the region has claimed the lives of thousands of people and it retards the process of socio-economic development in the country.

It is necessary that the Armed Forces of the country be all-sidedly consolidated and the state frontiers with Pakistan and Iran be shielded. The people's power be strengthened and elections to the local jirgahs be completed. The members of the State Council be elected and the state plans be realised, Najibullah said.

We are duty-bound, Najibullah said, to carry out all these tasks in the tense situation created around Afghanistan. The DRA along with the USSR and other friendly countries adopt measures for the solution of the existing problems. The stage by stage return of the limited military contingents of the USSR to their country which will be carried out in the future are among the measures enjoying particular significance.

There are high expectations from the youth and the DYOA, because the children and youth constitute the majority of the population of the country. Their number is almost ten million and the future of the country depends on them, Najibullah said.

The 19th plenum of the PDPA CC, Najibullah said, placed as the basic task of the youth and the DYOA their active and all-sided participation in all fields of social, economic, and political activities.

It was decided at the 19th plenum that vast changes will be effected in the leadership of the DYOA. The young cadres will be recommended for activity in the party and state organs and defence councils in the future. The youths are trusted and regarded reliable, Najibullah said.

Many achievements have been made in the development and improvement of education in the country and the setting up of a system of high and vocational education in the post-revolutionary years, Najibullah said.

Since the teachers constitute the basis of schools, their contribution should be highly appreciated. They should enjoy protection and their status should be elevated. Moral and material measures of encouragement have been taken into consideration. Honorary titles will be enacted for the teachers. The teachers of the country will get together in their first congress in the near future, Najibullah said

Karmal Cited on Compilation of New Constitution

LD050711 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, August 4, OANA-BAKHTAR: The need for the compilation of the new Constitution of the DRA is logically tied with the revolutionary process in the country, the state structure, and the nature of the evolution of the political system.

This was stated by Babrak Karmal, president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and chairman of the commission for drafting the Constitution of the DRA to a special correspondent of *Haqiqat-e-Engelab-e-Sawr*.

In the past six years since the enforcement of the fundamental principles, he added, important changes have occurred in the country and spectacular transformations have taken place in the society.

In these years, Babrak Karmal pointed out despite the intensification of the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism against the DRA and due to the sacrificial struggle of the heroic Afghan people, revolutionary transformations have taken place in the political, social, economic, and cultural life of the people. The social bases of the new political system have developed, on the basis of which not only the state structure has changed but a great number of social organizations have been established within the framework of the National Fatherland Front.

Taking into consideration the development of the revolutionary process inside the country and developments at the regional and world level, the need arose to formulate a new Constitution, president of the Revolutionary Council said.

The UN Charter, the universal declaration of human rights, international convenant of civil and political law, the international agreements on economic law, social, cultural, and other reliable international documents, the previous constitutions of the country, and the national and historical characteristics of the Afghan society have been taken into consideration in the compilation of the new Constitution of the DRA. As also the national issue based on equality of legal status of all nationalities, and

tribes, the constitutions of the Islamic countries, the socialist countries, the socialist goal, and the rich experience of the Soviet Union have also been taken into account, Babrak Karmal emphasised.

Draft To Be Presented to Public

LD050720 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Kabul, August 4, OANA-BAKHTAR: The draft of the new Constitution of the DRA will be published for eliciting public opinion, said Babrak Karmal, president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and chairman of the commission on drafting new Constitution in an interview granted by him to a special correspondent of the daily *Haqiqat-e-Enqelab-e-Sawr*.

The drafting commission of the Constitution is obliged to take the public opinion into account in the final text of the Constitution.

The draft of the new Constitution of the DRA will incorporate the basic principle that "all the state power will belong to the people", said Babrak Karmal. The share of all strata of the people including the workers, peasants, craftsmen, nomads, intellectuals, clergymen, national capital holders, and all national and democratic forces of the tribes and nationalities will be defined in the draft of the Constitution.

This will enable all the people to participate without exception in the organs of state power and administration either directly or through their representatives.

For ensuring a principled compromise and for the ever-further expansion of the social bases of the national and democratic April Revolution, all the strata of the people of Afghanistan who take an honest part in the process of ensurance of nation-wide peace and order and the construction of a new, democratic and progressive society have certainly the right to participate in the state power and administration. This basic right of the Afghan people will be contained in the draft of the new Constitution.

As far as the rights and obligations of the citizens are concerned, extensive guarantees have been anticipated in the draft of the new Constitution.

The right to live, the right to work and education, the right to participate in the administration of state affairs, the right to establish local and political organisations, the right for accomodation and security, and expression, and prohibition of compulsory work are instances which can be cited here.

The state is supporting the right of marriage, households, child and mother care and will also take care of the young generation, said president of the Revolutionary Council.

AFP Reports Soviet 'Anti-Guerilla Drive' in Paghman

BK051015 Hong Kong AFP in English 0935 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 5 (AFP) — Thousands of Soviet troops, backed up by heavy artillery, launched a major anti-guerrilla drive in Paghman, west of Kabul last week, Western diplomats said here Tuesday.

They added that mujahedeen had attacked a military post at Shamalza'i, killing three soldiers and drawing an air raid on hills beyond Paghman. They had no casualty report.

The diplomats said they witnessed eight passes by Soviet aircraft on August 1, and saw a rebel SAM-7 missile "narrowly miss" its Soviet target.

Quoting travellers, the sources confirmed the mujahedeen were holding parts of Qandahar, where a large scale battle took place in the main bazar in mid-July, leaving 25 civilians dead.

Fighting was also reported in western Herat Province, while guerrillas last week ambushed a mixed Soviet-Afghan convoy on the Ghazni-Kabul road. The diplomats said three truck loads of wounded soldiers were brought to hospitals in Kabul.

3d Day of Talks on 'Border Tension' Held in Geneva

AU041750 Paris AFP in English 1724 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] Geneva, Aug 4 (AFP) — United Nations Assistant Secretary-General Diego Cordovez spent more than four hours Monday shuttling between Afghan and Pakistani UN delegations here on the third day of the latest session of indirect talks to defuse border tension, a UN spokesman said.

The two sides sit in separate rooms while Mr Cordovez acts as go- between. Neither side returned after lunch on the first day Thursday, saying they wanted to look at Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's recent proposal to withdraw six Soviet regiments from Afghanistan by the end of the year.

Friday's session went ahead as planned, and more sessions are envisaged this week. This is the eighth time the two sides have talked since 1982.

Karachi Reports on 4 Aug Session

BK041532 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] The indirect Geneva talks on Afghanistan resumed today after the weekend recess. Diego Cordovez called on the Kabul administration's foreign minister, Shah Mohammad Dost, for 1 hour this morning. Later, he had a similar meeting with Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Kahan and other members of the Pakistani delegation. The process of indirect detailed talks continued this afternoon. The talks will resume tomorrow.

According to informed sources, the two sides are considering the proposals presented by the UN intermediary, Cordovez, so as to move forward on yet unsettled issues including the timeframe for the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

USSR Withdrawal, Border Talks Prove 'Peaceful Policy'
NC051130 Kabul in English to South Asia
0900 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Unattributed commentary: "The Foreign Policy of Afghanistan in the Region and the Geneva Talks"]

[Text] The decision of the DRA and the Soviet Union on the return of six regiments of the military contingents of the Soviet Union to their peace-loving country demonstrates the goodwill, right, and peaceful policy of the DRA and its great friend, the Soviet Union, in connection with the solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

It is not the first time that the DRA has show its stability in its foreign policy arena, especially in its policy toward Pakistan and Iran. Afghanistan has repeatedly shown its plentiful mildness. The statements of the DRA made in May 1980 and in August 1981 are clear testimony to the humane and wise policy for the prevention of warmongering insanity around Afghanistan. The BAKHTAR statement of May 1980 states that: For the purpose of concluding an agreement of normalization of relations on the basis of respect, national sovereignty, goodneighborliness, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs, talks would be held between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Agreements to be concluded between Afghanistan and Iran and between Afghanistan and Pakistan should include specific commitments of nonpermission [as heard] of military operations or other such side operations from the respective countries against the country it is concluding the agreement with. Similarly, in this statement, it is clearly pointed out that the countries will guarantee noninterference or [the absence of] any foreign interference in the internal affairs of the DRA, and will provide the possibility for the solution of the questions of the return of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union from the lines of Afghanistan.

These clear principles and peaceful stand of the DRA were met with carelessness and fanatic reactions by the imperialists and the warmongering countries of the region. These countries were not willing to respect the voice of right and principles. For instance, right now, they summarily rejected the accepted objectives and have made the people of Afghanistan and other countries become wrathful. Imperialists and their servants wanted to undermine this statement by hatching the conspiracy of keeping silent.

But with this conspiracy, nothing good was achieved. The DRA issued another statement in August 1981, nearly 1 year [as heard] after the first one. The statement made it clear that all the Government of Afghanistan wanted were mutual talks with Pakistan and Iran, as in the past, and [that it] was also prepared for tripartite talks with Pakistan and Iran. Simultaneously, it said that the Government of the DRA declared that it did not oppose mutual or tripartite talks with the participation of the UN secretary general or his special envoy.

In the text of the statement, great attention has been paid to the sanction of international guarantees, which should be a component part of the solution of political issues regarding Afghanistan. We asked the Pakistanis to express preparedness for talks with Afghanistan through the UN special envoy, and soon after Afghanistan [as heard] signaled agreement in response, the first round of talks was held in Geneva from June 15 to June 20 1982.

In 1983, the special envoy of the UN secretary general visited Afghanistan and Pakistan and, following these visits, the Geneva talks continued between Afghanistan and Pakistan. It was under the initiative of the DRA that the horizon of hope was opened to the peoples of Afghanistan and Pakistan and the people of the region for holding direct talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan in Geneva.

Now it is obvious that [it was] the peaceful policy of the DRA that compelled the foreign policies of the imperialist countries of the world and the reaction of the region to show at least some tendency toward the matter [as heard], even though it is conciliatory and against their real will.

Bill Introduced To Create New State of Mizoram

BK040951 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, introduced in the Lok Sabha today a bill seeking to establish a new state of Mizoram comprising the territories of the existing Union Territory. Mr Buta Singh also introduced in the House the 53d Constitution amendment bill providing for certain special provisions with respect to the State of Mizoram. The memorandum of settlement on Mizoram envisages that to satisfy the desires and aspirations of all sections of the people of Mizoram, government will undertake legistative measures to confer statehood on the Union Territory of Mizoram. This will come into effect on a date to be notified by the central government. The bill is intended to give effect to this undertaking. The bill stipulates that acts of Parliament shall not apply to the State of Mizoram unless so decided by the Mizoram legislature. This will apply to religious or social practises of Mizos, Mizo customary law and procedure, and ownership and transfer of land.

All Mizo Rebels End Campaign, Surrender Arms

BK311249 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] The Mizo National Front [MNF] chief, Mr Lal Denga, says that all members of his organization have now come overground. He told newsmen in Aijal today that the arms and ammunition deposited with the civil authorities at the reception camps at (Pharawa) and (Marapaa) have exceeded expectations. He said all those who have come overground will reach Aijal tomorrow. Mr Lal Denga said that national executive of the MNF will meet in Aijal on Monday to finalize the composition of the coalition ministry.

Minister on Sri Lanka, Steps Against U.S. Warships

BK050912 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] The Rajya Sabha was informed today that India has no proposal at present to request the United Nations to send the peace-keeping force for enforcing a cease-fire in Sri Lanka. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr K.R. Narayana, said that India has no intention of internationalizing the issue. Replying to a question, the minister told the members that government believs that only a negotiated political solution can bring peace and put a stop to the killings in Sri Lanka. Government has made available its good offices for the purpose of working out an acceptable political solution to ensure that killings are stopped in Sri Lanka. As a result, a package of proposals has been drawn up which is currently under discussion between the Sri Lanka Government and the TULF, he added.

Replying to a supplementary, Mr Narayanan pointed out that to get the UN force stationed in the area one has to get a resolution passed in the UN Security Council which is subject to vote.

About the visit of the American warships to Sri Lankan ports, the minister said that this does have a bearing on the issue of keeping the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. Replying to supplementaries, the minister said a number of U.S. warships called at Sri Lankan ports. According to the U.S. Government, these were goodwill visits. He assured the members that necessary precautions have been taken to ward off any possible intrusion by sea.

Referring to the reported statement of President Jayewardene that a military solution will be sought in case peace negotiations failed, Mr Narayanan said this is more of contingency statement. India, he said, has told Sri Lanka categorically that the ethnic problem cannot be solved by military action. It will be disasterous for Sri Lanka if such a step is taken. It will fan a fratricidal conflict. Mr Narayanan said India's stand has been positive.

Bill Passed Allowing Commission Reports Withheld

BK301253 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 30 Jul 86

[Text] The Lok Sabha today passed the Commissions of Enquiry Amendment Bill seeking to empower the government to withhold the report of any enquiry commission from being tabled in Parliament in public interest. The House earlier rejected a statutary resolution moved by Mr Madhu Dandavate, Janata, seeking disapproval of the ordinance which the bill seeks to replace. The rejection of the resolution was immediately followed by a walkout by most of the opposition members.

Piloting the bill, the minister of state for home, Mr Chidambaram, justified the objective of the bill saying that the government has the right to decide not to place any report of an enquiry commission in Parliament if it is against the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of the country, the security of the state, friendly relations with foreign countries, or in public interest.

110 Injured in Police Baton Charge in Kerala

BK030306 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 3 Aug 86

[Text] In Kerala, police fired two rounds in the air to disperse a crowd of volunteers of a Marxist-led democratic youth federation of India at Cannanore last evening. Earlier, police made lathi [baton] charge and burst tear gas shells to disperse the demonstrators who were protesting against alleged corrupt practices of ministers. They were also demanding proper payment of unemployment dole.

At least 90 people and 20 policemen, including a superintendent of police, were injured in the lathi charge and stone throwing.

5 Sikhs Said Arrested in Canada for Plot on Air India

BK050942 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] The Rajya Sabha was told today that on the 30th of May this year Canadian authorities arrested five persons belonging to the Babbar Khalsa organization in connection with the plot to blow up an Air India aircraft flying out of New York. The

minister of state for external affairs, Mr K.R. Narayanan, said charges against three of them were withdrawn by the prosecution on the grounds of insufficient evidence. The case against the other two is likely to come up for trial in September.

Tamil Delegation Briefs Officials on Colombo Talks

BK311619 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] In New Delhi the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] leaders today apprised Indian officials of the trend of discussions they had with the Sri Lankan Government on the ethnic issue in Colombo recently. The TULF delegation had separate meetings with the policy advisory committee chairman, Mr G. Parthasarthy, and the foreign secretary, Mr A. P. Venkateswaran. The Sri Lanka high commissioner, Mr Bernard Tilakaratna, also had discussions with the foreign secretary on the subject.

230 MP's Urge Complete Ban on Nuclear Tests

BK020850 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 2 Aug 86

[Text] More than 230 members of Parliament have urged the leaders of six nations meeting in Mexico shortly to sign a complete test ban treaty. In an appeal, the MP's belonging to 18 parties as well as independents have said the six nations have taken the most logical and realistic step to urge nuclear weapon powers to halt the march to destruction. We have supported these initiatives fully. The Soviet Union responded by a unilateral moratorium on nuclear weapon tests. They regretted that the arms race is still on defying the urge of the people for peace.

PAKISTAN

Commentary on Prospects of Geneva Afghan Talks

BK310452 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1715 GMT 30 Jul 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The UN-sponsored proximity talks to find a negotiated political settlement of the Afghanistan problem resume in Geneva on July 31. Pakistan, in line with the demand of the international community, will concentrate on evolving a process which ensures the briefest possible time schedule for withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. According to a Pakistani delegation source, Pakistan was now approaching the Geneva talks with the avowed objective of arriving at a settlement of the crucial question of withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan in as much short a time as possible to end the hardship and sufferings of the Afghan people and the enflamed situation in the region which endangered peace and security of the countries of the area. The source recalled Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan's observation that progress in the talks and their success mainly depended on the resolution of the issue of withdrawal of Soviet troops. This indeed is consistent with the demand of the international community which is being repeated regularly with increased vigor in various international fora, particularly the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Islamic Conference Organization.

Reacting to the announcement made by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that the Soviet Union would withdraw six regiments from Afghanistan before the end of the year, a Pakistani foreign office spokesman has described it as a small step toward complete withdrawal of Soviet troops. The total number of Soviet troops in Afghanistan is currently estimated to be 120,000. The spokesman also said that the Soviet announcement sought to emphasize the necessity of continued support by the world community for the efforts being made to find a negotiated political settlement of the Afghanistan problem based on the principles contained in the resolutions of the United Nations. The general reaction to the Soviet announcement may not be very encouraging, but at least it is reassuring that the Soviet Union has taken this initial step in the hope that complete withdrawal will take place in the near future. It is also heartening to note that this announcement of partial withdrawal has been made at a time when the indirect Geneva talks were to commence again. The special representative of the UN secretary general, Mr Diego Cordovez, has described this announcement for partial withdrawal as a sensitive and positive development. He said that this move would create a good atmosphere for the Geneva talks.

Pakistan firmly believes that the early withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan will ensure return of peace and normalcy to Afghanistan. This would indeed be in the best interest of all the countries of the region as also for world peace and tranquillity. Pakistan also believes that the only way for the elimination of tension generated by military invasion of Afghanistan by a foreign superpower is to build a bridge of peace and goodwill and mutual understanding. As Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, the foreign minister of Pakistan, has said: Pakistan is approaching the seventh round with expectations of forward moving in the talks which can focus on instrument four, dealing with the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

It cannot be denied that the stand taken by Pakistan in this regard is pragmatic. Progress in the talks solely depends on the resolution of the issue of withdrawal of Soviet troops. The seventh round of proximity talks which begins in Geneva on July 31 will prove very crucial in the sense that the issue of timeframe for the withdrawal of foreign troops will be discussed. Whether this round will prove fruitful or not will depend on the attitude and approach of the Kabul regime. Pakistan will make every possible effort to find a meaningful solution to the problem.

SRI LANKA

Hameed on Devolution of Power, Muslims' Rights

BK041207 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] Muslims in Sri Lanka will not be adversely affected by the devoluton of power at the provincial level. On the contrary, they stand to gain. The fundamental rights enjoyed by them will remain intact. These were stated by the minister of foreign affairs, A.C.S. Hameed, when he addressed a large gathering of Muslims representing various organizations at the Islamic Center at [words indistinct] in Colombo yesterday.

Answering to questions from members of the Muslim community, Mr Hameed said that the government will not do anything which is detrimental to any community. He went into the details of the process of devolution of power and explained in stages how the relevant proposals will be implemented in the present context.

The minsiter pointed out that the gap between the government and the TULF has been narrowed down significantly and a solution to the ethnic problem is very close.

He assured the Muslims that their fundamental rights will be preserved.

Minister Seeks Proposals From Those Dissatisfied

BK041203 Colombo International Service in English
1045 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, said that anybody who is not satisfied with the government's proposals to end the present crisis should put forward an alternative to them (?which) should be both practical and acceptable to all. Speaking at a religious ceremony at (Waiopola) yesterday, the minister also observed that the people of this country have enough reasons to reject the battle cries being made without any proper evaluation of the proposals.

Mr Athulathmudali, referring to the rights of the mahasanga [clergies] and the people to express their opinion, pointed out that the new proposals were aimed at (?rescuing) the people who were made refugees by terrorist activity. This is a problem, which has

affected the entire country, and nobody could avoid their responsibility.

The minister, however, added that the terrorists have still not accepted the government's proposals and until they come to an agreement, the Sinhalese people should act with unity.

Delhi Reports Tamil Militants Blow Up Freight Train
BK050916 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, Tamil militants are reported to have blown up a cargo train near Trincomalee. Five persons have been seriously injured in the incident. The blast occurred between Tampalagaman and the Airforce base of China Bay, about 10 km from Trincomalee. According to Sri Lankan authorities, full details of the attack are not yet available. The train was on its way to the prime flour factory, the biggest flour milling complex in Sri Lanka.

Islamic Jihad Pledges Execution of U.S. Hostages

LD041301 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Aug 86

[Text] The Islamic Jihad organization yesterday announced that it will execute its U.S. hostages if the United States does not meet its demands, and will hold the U.S. Government responsible for the executions.

In a statement released to Beirut *Al-Nahar*, the Islamic Jihad stated that it refutes reports that it has sent messages to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, Pope John Paul II, and the archbishop of Canterbury. Islamic Jihad said it reaffirms that it continues to view the United States as its enemy and an arch-Satan, and will not hold any contacts with it. The Islamic Jihad asserted that the pope's silence on the crimes committed by the United States and its allies has made him an accessory to such crimes, and that it is untrue that it has sent any messages to the pope or to the archbishop of Canterbury.

The U.S. priest, Jenco, who was released by the Islamic Jihad on 26 July, had announced that he is carrying messages to the pope, the archbishop of Canterbury, and U.S. President Reagan. The Islamic Jihad organization is demanding the release of the Muslims who have been detained in Kuwait since December 1984 in return for releasing its U.S. hostages.

President Speaks on Ending Iraqi Aggression

LD041008 Tehran IRNA in English 0951 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 4, IRNA — President and head of the Supreme Defense Council 'Ali Khamene'i here Monday reiterated Iran's conditions to end the Iraqi-imposed war and said the Islamic Republic of Iran seeks peace and tranquility and is not interested in aggression. "But", he stressed, "we are not type of the nation to leave aggression unanswered."

President Khamene'i was speaking at the flag-hoisting ceremony at the Ground Forces headquarters during which he announced the appoint of the new Ground Forces commander. Upon the proposal of the Supreme Defense Council and approval of Immam Khomeyni, Colonel Hoseyn Hasani-Sa'di, was appointed new commander of the Ground Forces replacing Colonel 'Ali Seyyed Shirazi.

Referring to recent statements of Iraqi ruler Saddam Husayn, demanding Iranian officials to abandon his pursuit and punishment, the president said that blows Muslim combatants of Iran dealt on the enemy, have forced the Baghdad rulers to officially expose their weakness.

The head of the Supreme Defense Council said that Iraqi rulers despite their repeated crimes in attacking residential quarters and working class areas, have again alleged demanding for peace and ceasefire.

President Khamene'i stressed that aggression will be uprooted only through punishment of the aggressor, adding that if the aggressor is freed unpunished, there would be no guarantee to non-repetition of the violation.

He said that the Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps are two strong arms of the Islamic Revolution and reiterated the unity among all armed forces.

UAE Paper Reports Qeshm Air Base To Be Inaugurated

JN041113 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 31 Jul 86 p 1

[Text] *Al-Ittihad Al-Usbu'i* has learned from military sources in London that the Iranian Air Force commander will inaugurate a new air base on Qeshm Island at the entrance of the Strait of Hormuz at the end of next month. This base was set up in accordance with a military agreement between Iran and North Korea and the Koreans began work on it in September 1985.

The sources said that the base is qualified to receive all types of fighter planes and huge transport aircraft and that there is a 5-year plan to expand it in the future and convert it into an air and naval military complex for the war vessels which Iran obtains from the eastern bloc countries. Bandar-e 'Abbas remains the largest Iranian air base at present and it is assigned for aircraft and naval vessels manufactured in the West.

Naval Chief Announces Maneuvers From 23 Sep

LD291418 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT 29 Jul 86

[Text] Tehran, July 29, IRNA — Iranian naval forces will conduct maneuvers in regional waters in the second half of the current Iranian year (Sept. 23-March 20), said Commander of the Navy Captain Mohammad Hoseyn Malekzadegan here Tuesday.

The objective of the maneuvers, he added, is to become further prepared to safeguard Iran's waters and encounter threats of international arrogance.

"In these maneuvers we do not intend to display our power to confront the naval forces of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq because the Iraqi naval forces do not exist any more."

Captain Malekzadegan said that naval patrol units intercepted a cargo ship sailing under the Brazilian flag near the Strait of Hormuz Sunday. Since the consignment of the Kuwaiti-bound ship was suspicious it was led to one of the southern ports of the country for inspection.

The Navy commander said that foreign naval fleets including those of the United States were trafficking around the Strait of Hormuz without causing any disturbances due to the alertness of the Iranian naval units.

The commander stressed that the Iranian Navy, as the strongest naval force in the region which had maintained full security, was determined to expand its presence in the Oman sea. On the contrary, the Iraqi naval forces due to the powerful presence of the Iranian naval forces are inactive in the region and have so far failed to compensate fatal blows inflicted on their radar and communications system on Al-Ommayya oil platform, Captain Malekzadegan said.

In their latest offensive, Muslim forces of Iran destroyed remnants of the Iraqi Navy and by cutting off its access to Khour-Abdullah, blocked its only connection to the Persian Gulf.

Reaction Reported To Statement by Iraq's Husayn

'Peace Plan' 'To Mislead' Public

LD041046 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Aug 86

[Unattributed commentary from the "Behind the Events" program]

[Text] Following all the recent crimes by the Baghdad regime in killing innocent civilians, Saddam's miserable message yesterday aims to draw the curtain on such crimes and to evade retribution. We will discuss Saddam's message and attempts to mislead public opinion.

The criminal murderer wears the sheep's clothing. The butcher whose hands are dripping with the blood of the innocent aspires for security. The man of aggression who kindled the fires of war is raising the banner of peace, stability, and tranquility.

That is Saddam. In the recent past his cowardly Air Force was killing innocent people in Sanandaj, Arak, and Marivan, and today he [words indistinct] and a miserable message. What has happened? Has Saddam changed overnight? Or have the circumstances changed so that he has sought to ride with the current rather than be drowned by it and escape his coming punishment? Undoubtedly Saddam has not changed. He is the same criminal who is well versed in killing and terrorism so that they have become part of his nature. Saddam's aim in issuing his message is to escape his punishment, mislead public opinion, and perhaps prepare for further crimes.

Saddam's aircraft have attacked cities and civilians, killing innocent men and women, children and the aged. Such crimes deserve retribution. How can he escape such retribution? He imagines that he can save himself from retribution by issuing such a miserable message and by what he termed as a peace plan for the following reasons:

First — To absorb possible reaction from the Islamic Republic of Iran which had threatened violent retaliation if the aggressor does not desist from his cowardly aggression.

Second — To change his image of a terrorist, criminal, and aggressor among public opinion into one of a peacelover by misleading public opinion.

Third — To use such deception of public opinion, if it should succeed, in future crimes against innocent civilians.

Fourth — The objectives of Saddam's plan may include a search for a solution that saves the regime from its present dilemma and its deteriorating military situation.

The Baghdad regime is currently experiencing a very critical situation, and this is confirmed by the battle of Al-Faw and the subsequent battle of Mehran.

Saddam is aware that future military developments will not have a better outcome for him than previously, so he decided to try his luck with what he termed as a peace plan in the hope that it will save him from his mortal dilemma, particularly as time is moving toward military developments that will have great significance in deciding the outcome of the war.

Latest Plan 'To Delude World'

LD041738 Tehran IRNA in English 1728 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] London, 4 Aug, IRNA — Muslim observers in London believe the Iraqi ruler's latest appeal to Iran to stop the war which the Ba'thist regime imposed on the Islamic Republic over six years ago, was an indication that Iraq's social-economic climate had reached a desperate stage.

Since the Islamic Forces took the initiative in the battlefield, the Iraqi ruler has repeatedly attempted to get Iran to put an end to its offensives. Saddam has tried every means to present himself as a "man of peace"

"His (Saddam's) latest plan is yet another such move intended to delude the world about his claimed peaceful aims, helped in this by a string of subservient media both in the Arab world and in the West," said an Iraqi Muslim observer who requested anonymity.

In a statement read on Baghdad radio, Saddam called for a complete and unconditional withdrawal to the international border, a complete swap of prisoners of war, a peace treaty, and a joint pledge of non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Iran has firmly maintained that because the Iraqi regime declared the 1975 Algiers accord null and void and invaded Iran, Baghdad rulers should be punished for the aggression and pay the cost of the massive human and material losses.

In London the Iraqi-financed *Al-Arab* newspaper Monday carried the Iraqi ruler's 'open letter' in an article along with an editorial on its front page.

After amplifying the "positive" reaction to the Iraqi ruler's latest call in the Western media, the daily implicitly recognized in its editorial that Baghdad was receiving satellite intelligence about Iranian troops' movements.

Because of spy satellite observations "surprise has disappeared" from the Iranian side, *Al-Arab* claimed. However, it did not explain how Iran was nevertheless able to take back most of its territory occupied by Iraq and liberate hundreds of kms of Iraqi land, the most recent in the strategic Al-Faw peninsula.

Paper Reports Clashes in Iraq Between Army, Deserters

LD311747 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] The Al-Harithah region, north of Basrah Province in Iraq, has recently been the scene of clashes between a unit of the Iraqi Popular Army troops and a group of Iraqi Army deserters from the warfronts. According to a Central News Unit report, the Arabic language weekly *Al-Jihad* wrote: The clash which took place on 28 Tir [19th July 1986] culminated in the killing of 17 Iraqi Army troops, including the commanders of military units. *Al-Jihad* notes: Thousands of Iraqi Army soldiers and NCOs have deserted from their units and have sought refuge in safe places out of reach of spies of the Iraqi Zionist regime.

According to a Central News Unit report, news received from Iraq also indicates that recently the Haydar al-Karrar Corps has been set in a part of the Hawr al-Hammar in Iraq, under the command of Staff Major General 'Abd al-Zahra' (Shukur) al-Rubay'i, one of the commanders of the Iraqi forces in Al-Faw, for the purpose of waging armed struggle against the Saddam regime.

Nigerian President Sends OPEC Message to Khamene'i

LD011636 Tehran IRNA in English 1532 GMT 1 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 1, IRNA — Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida sent a message to his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Khamene'i Thursday emphasising the need for all OPEC member countries to cooperate.

The Nigerian president pointed out in his message that success of OPEC's 79th conference in solving the sensitive problems it now faces depends on the cooperation of all member countries.

He furthermore expressed hope that agreement would be reached on individual member's quota as well as production ceiling.

Iran, Babangida said, as an influential member can greatly influence views in the organization for the purpose of bringing about consensus on member's quota and OPEC ceiling.

The Nigerian president said Iran's support for efforts being made toward that goal would also prompt other OPEC members to uphold the same stand in the organization.

Commentary on Oil Ceiling, Price Structure

LD041235 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Aug 86

[Unattributed commentary from the "Behind the Events" program]

[Text] Brothers, OPEC's problem which appears to be chronic or insoluble lies in the production ceiling and the price structure. Present production ceilings, which have recently totaled about 20 million bpd — not to mention the production of non-OPEC states — exceed consumption rates which at best are no more than 15 million bpd. That has led to the slide in oil prices which recently fell to less than $10 per barrel of North Sea oil, not to mention Middle East oil. Although there were coincidental developments governed by the laws of supply and demand in the world market that contributed to such a situation, there was in fact an old Western plan that sought to exercise pressure on oil prices so as to abolish the oil card that had an effective role both politically and economically.

Just as oil's political card was lost some time ago, efforts are now being made to foil oil's economic card for it is now being offered at prices incompatible with its real value. The said Western plan has been given impetus and its implementation expedited as a result of the Islamic-Ba'thist war and its future course: The signs are that the war will develop in the future to Islam's favor. The Western plan seeks to exercise pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran by reducing oil revenues so that Iran will negotiate, and the war will end with the conditions they want and not with the results we want, and thus Saddam would be saved.

Although the U.S.-Western group had drawn up the said plan, there have been OPEC parties that actively took part in its implementation. Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were among the champions of such participation when they opened wide their oil pipelines for unlimited export. Saudi exports totaled about 6 million bpd — in addition to what Saudi Arabia and Kuwait produce for the Baghdad regime.

Now, as OPEC oil ministers are seeking to end the present slump in oil prices, an official Saudi spokesman has reaffirmed Saudi Arabia's consistent policy which he described as moderate on oil prices, and said that production should meet what he termed as Saudi needs. Saudi needs are much less than current rates of oil production. However, embroilment in the plot is the secret that governs oil policies. Will Saudi Arabia and its other parties respond to such a fact and cooperate with the others in cutting production?

IRNA Reports Bomb Blast in Tehran's Azadi Square

LD050534 Tehran IRNA in English 0532 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 5, IRNA — A bomb went off at Tehran's Azadi Square Tuesday morning, killing a pedestrian and damaging two cars. The bomb, planted by agents of international arrogance, went off at 0500 hours local time (0130 hours GMT). A witness told IRNA that the international arrogance, unable to take ay measure to hinder achievements of Muslim combatants in battlefields, imagined that by resorting to such acts it could prevent people from rushing to war fronts.

Tehran Reports Expulsion of 36 From Kuwait

LD291845 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jul 86

[Text] Another 36 Iranians residing in Kuwait were expelled from that country yesterday. IRNA reports that these people arrived at Ganaveh port and settled in one of the Bushehr camps. It should be noted that many of those expelled from Kuwait have legal resident permits.

Tehran Reports Departure for Fronts of Guards Corps

LD271049 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 27 Jul 86

[Text] In continuation of the departure of combat forces to the battlefronts of war, members of the Battalion of the Guards of the Islamic Revolution Komiteh of the Province of Kerman, yesterday left for the fronts of war after a send-off ceremony attended by members of their families and the inhabitants of that province. Also according to the report of the Central news unit, in continuation of the departure of popular volunteer forces to the fronts, yesterday morning a group of brother guards from the Islamic Revolution Komiteh of the Semnan Province, left for the battlefronts of war after ceremonies in order to link up with other combatants of the Army of Islam.

Other reports received from Bushehr and Tabriz also state that hundreds of guards of the Islamic Revolution Komiteh's of Bushehr and western Azarbayjan, yesterday left for the theaters of war. They were seen off by a party of the people of these regions.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Kurds Attack 4 Iraqi Positions

LD041311 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] The Iraqi Muslim Kurdish fighters have attacked four positions of the Zionist regime of Iraq in Zakhu and Khurmal, northern Iraq, killing scores of the Saddamist forces. This was reported by a news bulletin issued by the Assembly Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq.

The bulletin adds that the abovementioned operations that were carried out in early August have also resulted in the destruction of military depots and equipment of the 'Aflaqi regime of Iraq.

Communique No 2,553

LD041701 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 4, IRNA — Several Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and three gun emplacements, four bunkers, and 15 vehicles of theirs destroyed throughout the fronts Sunday when their positions were shelled by Iranian forces, said a military communique here Monday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2553 said that Iraqi forces incurred substantial casualties and losses in Marivan, western fronts, Sunday when heavy Iranian artillery and mortar fire hit enemy positions.

Some Iraqi warplanes attempting to violate the airspace of Baneh, Kordestan Province, Saturday were forced to flee by heavy Iranian surface-to-air fire, the communique said. In the northwestern fronts, the communique said, Muslim forces of Iran reconnoitered and pounded Iraqi positions Sunday inflicting heavy casualties and damage on Iraqi forces and setting fire to parts of their fortifications.

Some 15 vehicles and four bunkers of Iraqi troops were destroyed and a number of enemy soldiers killed or wounded in parts of the southern fronts as a result of artillery duels with Iranian gendarmerie forces on Sunday, the communique said.

The communique said that an Iraqi armoured unit in Ein-Khoush operational theater sustained heavy casualties and damage when it came under Iranian artillery fire.

Some Iraqi soldiers were killed and movement of enemy armoured and motorized units checked in Mehran, Helaleh and Mo'inak fronts Sunday by Iranian forces, according to the communique.

In Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts, the communique said, Iranian artillery pounded Iraqi positions Sunday destroying three enemy gun emplacements.

Exchange of artillery fire continued in the southern fronts Sunday raging somewhat more heavily in Pichangizeh, Bajliyeh, Talaieyeh, and Zeid.

Communique No 2554

LD051514 Tehran IRNA in English 1505 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Tehran, Aug 5, IRNA — At least 20 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and three vehicles and several gun emplacements of theirs destroyed in the southern fronts Monday when their positions were shelled by Iranian gendarmerie forces, said a military communique here Tuesday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2554 said that over the same period some Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and 10 enemy bunkers, one artillery piece, and four vehicles destroyed in the western fronts when they were hit by Iranian artillery fire. Enemy engineering operations were also checked.

Iran's Navy intercepted and inspected 13 cargo ships and oil tankers sailing under foreign flags in the Strait of Hormuz Sunday but allowed the ships to continue voyage after being convinced that they were not carrying any war-related goods for Iraq.

The communique said that a considerable number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded as a result of artillery fire exchanges with Iranian troops in the northwestern fronts Monday.

Elsewhere in the southern fronts, Iranian forces reconnoitered and opened heavy artillery and mortar fire on Iraqi positions and supply routes Monday inflicting substantial casualties and damage on them.

According to the communique, parts of Iraqi positions were devastated and three tanks and several vehicles of theirs destroyed in Marivan, Sar Dasht and Hajj 'Umran fronts as a result of artillery duels with Iranian Muslim combatants Monday.

Iraqi engineering operations as well as movements of their tanks in Nahr 'Anbar, Eyn Khosh and in areas overlooking Jofeyr

operational theaters were checked on Monday, the communique said.

Free Voice Radio Reports Anti-Khomeyni Demonstrations

TA311634 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 31 Jul 86

[Text] The citizens of Shiraz held demonstrations against Khomeyni's regime and chanted "Death to Khomeyni" slogans. The Free Voice of Iran correspondent reported that the demonstrators demanded an end to the war. During the demonstrations by Shiraz' citizens, clashes took place between the demonstrators and Khomeyni's guards, and the regime's armed mercenaries detained 50 demonstrators.

Following these demonstrations a group of Shiraz citizens gathered at Jam square and chanted slogans against Khomeyni's regime.

Through assaulting people's homes, the regime's guards are detaining youths and dispatching them to the war fronts. This barbarous measure by the guards aroused the people's strong protest and resulted in antiregime demonstrations.

Tehran Reports Oman Border Violations Against UAE

LD291913 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jul 86

[Text] Following the dwindling of financial assistance provided by the UAE to Oman, the latter has resumed its border violations against the UAE. Reports received indicate that by its financial assistance to Oman the Government of Abu Dhabi has so far curbed Oman's border claims in the region, but because of the sharp decrease in Abu Dhabi's oil revenues this assistance stopped and the Omani Government carried out incursions inside the area being claimed. The report adds: The recent talks between leading officials of these two Persian Gulf Arab countries have not yet yielded results, and Oman's harassing moves on the border of the UAE is indicative of this.

Border Trade Protocol Signed With Turkey

LD031742 Tehran IRNA in English 1605 GMT 3 Jul 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbaiyan Prov., Aug 3, IRNA — Iran and Turkey signed a protocol here Sunday according to which they will establish a joint commission in the next ten days to deal with border trade problems between the two countries.

The protocol was signed by visiting Governor General of Agri Province Kotolo Ektash and his Iranian counterpart from West Azarbaiyan Province Mr Ataie.

The Turkish Governor General Ektash said that Agri Province is responsible for border trade with Iran. He also invited his counterpart Ataie to visit Turkish Provinces of Agri and Erzurum.

Ataie also expressed his willingness to solve problems of Irano-Turkish border trade which he said, is actually a positive stride in the interests of the two countries' Muslims.

Ektash had headed an economic delegation which concluded his one-day visit and left here Sunday.

Red Cross Clinic for Afghan Refugees Approved

LD041741 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 4 Aug 86

[Text] Sarafan, Sistan-Baluchestan Prov., Aug 4, IRNA — Iran will allow the International Red Cross to establish a clinic and a quarantine post for Afghan refugees along the border here. The centers will deal with hygiene issues as well as prevent the spread of contagious diseases.

United Nations High Commissioner for Afghan Refugee Affairs made the announcement during a visit here on Monday. Delegates of the Afghan Refugees Council of the province accompanied the visiting UN official who arrived here Monday to review Afghan refugee issues.